

Thornton, NH



Community Contact

Town of Thornton

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Web Site

www.townofthorntonnh.org

Municipal Office Hours

Selectmen: Monday through Thursday, 8 am - 4 pm, Friday, 8 am - 3:30 pm; Town Clerk, Tax Collector: Monday through Thursday, 8 am - 4 pm, Friday, 8 am - 3:30 pm

County

Grafton

Labor Market Area

Plymouth, NH LMA

Tourism Region

White Mountains

Planning Commission

North Country Council

Regional Development

Grafton County Economic Development Council

Election Districts

US Congress

District 2

Executive Council

District 1

State Senate

District 1

State Representative

Grafton County Districts 6, 16

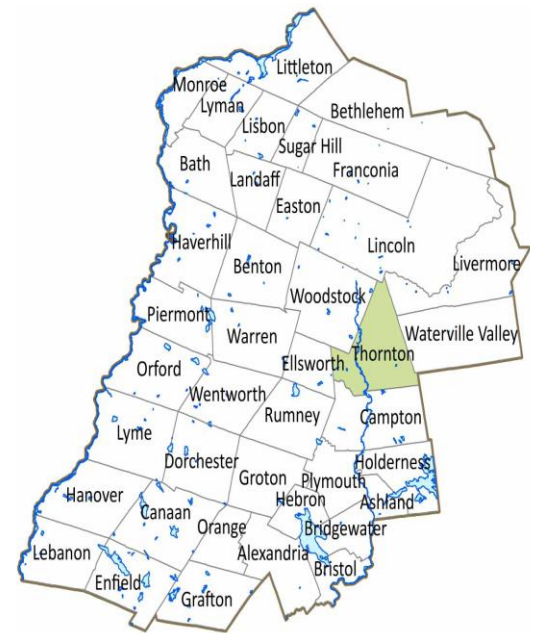
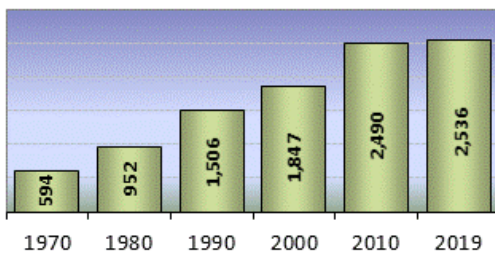
Incorporated: 1763

Origin: This territory was chartered in 1763, and named for Dr. Matthew Thornton. The grant was given to him in return for his service as surgeon in the Pepperell expedition of 1745. Dr. Thornton, whose practice was in Merrimack, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, a justice of the Superior Court, speaker of the House of Representatives, member of the State Senate, delegate to the Continental Congress, and "president" of the state following the Revolutionary War. No settlements were made under the first grant, and a second was issued in 1768; the first settlements were made in 1770.

Villages and Place Names: Goose Hollow, West Thornton

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 385 residents in 1790

Population Trends: Population change for Thornton totaled 1,942 over 49 years, from 594 in 1970 to 2,536 in 2019. The largest decennial percent change was an increase of 60 percent between 1970 and 1980, this was followed by a 58 percent increase over the next decade. The 2019 Census estimate for Thornton was 2,536 residents, which ranked 122nd among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.



Grafton County

Population Density and Land Area, 2019 (US Census Bureau): 50.4 persons per square mile of land area. Thornton contains 50.3 square miles of land area and 0.4 square miles of inland water area.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES	
Type of Government	Selectmen
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2020	\$3,502,857
Budget: School Appropriations, 2020-2021	\$4,984,496
Zoning Ordinance	1970/19
Master Plan	2013
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	Planning Board

Boards and Commissions
 Elected: **Selectmen; Trust Funds; Planning; Library; Treasurer; Overseer Public Welfare**
 Appointed: **Conservation; Zoning**

Public Library **Thornton Public**

EMERGENCY SERVICES	
Police Department	Full-time
Fire Department	Municipal
Emergency Medical Service	Municipal

Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds
Speare Memorial, Plymouth	15 miles	25

UTILITIES	
Electric Supplier	Eversource Energy; NH Electric Coop
Natural Gas Supplier	None
Water Supplier	Private wells

Sanitation	Private septic
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	No
Solid Waste Disposal	
Curbside Trash Pickup	None
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	No
Recycling Program	Mandatory

Telephone Company	Time Warner
Cellular Telephone Access	Limited
Cable Television Access	Limited
Public Access Television Station	No
High Speed Internet Service: Business	Limited
Residential	Limited

PROPERTY TAXES (NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2019 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$18.68
2019 Equalization Ratio	102.0
2019 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$18.96

2019 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	95.8%
Commercial Land and Buildings	2.1%
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	2.1%

HOUSING (ACS 2015-2019)	
Total Housing Units	1,956
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	1,617
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	75
Five or More Units in Structure	125
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	139

POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL)		(US Census Bureau)	
Total Population	Community	County	
2019	2,536	89,886	
2010	2,490	89,118	
2000	1,847	81,826	
1990	1,506	74,998	
1980	952	65,806	
1970	594	54,914	

DEMOGRAPHICS AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2015-2019			
Population by Gender			
Male	1,380	Female	1,124
Population by Age Group			
Under age 5			101
Age 5 to 19			419
Age 20 to 34			372
Age 35 to 54			632
Age 55 to 64			459
Age 65 and over			521
Median Age			44.1 years

Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over	
High school graduate or higher	98.1%
Bachelor's degree or higher	35.3%

INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$ (ACS 2015-2019)	
Per capita income	\$32,292
Median family income	\$74,342
Median household income	\$67,054

Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers	
Male	\$42,266
Female	\$38,197
Individuals below the poverty level	2.8%

LABOR FORCE (NHES – ELMI)		
Annual Average	2009	2019
Civilian labor force	1,261	1,698
Employed	1,183	1,667
Unemployed	78	31
Unemployment rate	6.2%	1.8%

EMPLOYMENT & WAGES (NHES – ELMI)		
Annual Average Covered Employment	2009	2019
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	22	20
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 599	\$ 822
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	75	183
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 386	\$ 541
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	96	203
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 434	\$ 569
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	67	37
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 459	\$ 849
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	163	240
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 444	\$ 612

EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend:	Thornton operates grades K-8; grades 9-12 are part of Pemi-Baker Cooperative (Ashland, Campton, Holderness, Plymouth, Rumney, Thornton, Wentworth)				District: SAU 48
Career Technology Center(s):	Plymouth Applied Technology Center				Region: 5
Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial	
Number of Schools	1				
Grade Levels	K 1-8				
Total Enrollment	215				

Nearest Community College: **Lakes Region**
 Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Plymouth State University**

2020 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **1** Total Capacity: **9**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Not Available			

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION (distances estimated from city/town hall)			
Road Access	US Routes		3
	State Routes		49, 175
Nearest Interstate, Exit		I-93, Exit 29	
	Distance		Local access
Railroad			No
Public Transportation			No
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation			
Plymouth Regional	Runway	2,380 ft. turf	
Lighted? No	Navigation Aids?		No
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service			
Lebanon Municipal	Distance	58 miles	
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport			1
Driving distance to select cities:			
Manchester, NH		72 miles	
Portland, Maine		105 miles	
Boston, Mass.		122 miles	
New York City, NY		319 miles	
Montreal, Quebec		199 miles	
COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2015-2019)			
Workers 16 years and over			
Drove alone, car/truck/van		86.2%	
Carpooled, car/truck/van		8.9%	
Public transportation		0.0%	
Walked		0.7%	
Other means		4.1%	
Worked at home		4.2%	
Mean Travel Time to Work		30.6 minutes	
Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2015-2019			
Working in community of residence		10.1	
Commuting to another NH community		85.7	
Commuting out-of-state		4.2	

RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS	
X	Municipal Parks
	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
X	Golf Courses
	Swimming: Indoor Facility
	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
	Museums
	Cinemas
	Performing Arts Facilities
X	Tourist Attractions
X	Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
	Youth Sports: Baseball
	Youth Sports: Soccer
	Youth Sports: Football
	Youth Sports: Basketball
	Youth Sports: Hockey
X	Campgrounds
X	Fishing/Hunting
X	Boating/Marinas
X	Snowmobile Trails
	Bicycle Trails
X	Cross Country Skiing
	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
	Overnight or Day Camps
	Nearest Ski Area(s): Loon Mountain, Waterville Valley
	Other: Waterville Valley; Loon Mountain; White Mountains